

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-18 (Cancelled)

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A process for printing or image development, wherein said process comprises the use of a composition comprising: 1) a dual polymer binder system, 2) an infrared absorbing compound, 3) an acid generating compound and, optionally, 4) a stabilizing acid, for forming a an outermost coating upon a lithographic printing plate and developing an image from the plate coated with said composition, wherein said plate is subjected to cure after development.

Claims 20-26 (Cancelled)

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 19, wherein the composition comprises a dual polymer binder system comprises a first polymer comprised of a condensation product of phenol, o-chlorophenol, o-, m- or p-cresol, p-hydroxy benzoic acid, 2-naphthol or other monohydroxy aromatic monomer with a first aliphatic or aromatic aldehyde;

and a second polymer comprised of the condensation product of catechol, resorcinol, hydroquinone, bisphenol A, bisphenol B, trihydroxybenzene, or other di- or polyhydroxy aromatic compound, and methylolated analogs thereof, with a second aliphatic or aromatic aldehyde.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 27, wherein the first polymer has a molecular weight in the range from 2,000 to 80,000; and the second polymer has a molecular weight in the range from 150 to 15,000.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 19, wherein the infrared absorbing compound in said composition is a dye or insoluble material such as carbon black.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 29, wherein the infrared absorbing compound is comprised of dyes derived from classes including pyridyl, quinoliny, benzoxazolyl, thiazolyl, benzothiazolyl, oxazolyl and selenazolyl.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 19, wherein the acid generating compound in said composition is an onium salt, wherein the onium salt has an anion.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented w): A process according to claim 31, wherein the onium salt comprises sulfonium, sulfoxonium, arsonium, iodonium, diazonium, bromonium, selenonium and phosphonium.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 31, wherein the anion, which determines the released free acid, includes chloride, bisulfate, hexafluoroantimonate, hexafluorophosphate, tetrafluoroborate, methane sulfonate and mesitylene sulfonate.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 31, wherein the onium salt is diphenyliodonium hexafluorophosphate or 3-methoxy-4-diazodiphenylamine hexafluorophosphate.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 19, wherein the stabilizing acid in the composition is a carboxylic acid.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 35, wherein the stabilizing acid is an aromatic carboxylic acid.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 36, wherein the stabilizing acid is a benzoic acid or a substitute thereof or a naphthoic acid or a substitute thereof.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 19, wherein the composition is either in a write-the-background mode or in a write-the-image mode, wherein the write-the-background mode comprises the following formulation:

dual polymer binder,

* first polymer	50 – 95%
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* second polymer	5.0 – 40%
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infrared absorber	0.1 – 12%
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acid generator	0.1 – 10%
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stabilizing acid	0.1 – 10%,
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further wherein the write-the-image mode comprising the following formulation:

Dual polymer binder,

* first polymer	5 – 95%
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* second polymer	10-90%
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infrared absorber	0.1 – 12%
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acid generator	0.1% - 15%
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stabilizing acid	0.1-10%.
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Claim 39 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 38, wherein the write-the-background mode has formulation 1A and the write-the-image mode has formulation 2A:

1A. Write-the-background mode

Dual polymer binder,

* first polymer	50-90%
* second polymer	5-35%
infrared absorber	0.5-12%
acid generator	0.5-12%
stabilizing acid	0.1-10%

2A. Write-the-image mode

Dual polymer binder,

* first polymer	5-90%
* second polymer	40-90%
infrared absorber	0.5-12%
acid generator	1.0-15%
stabilizing acid	0.1-10%.

Claim 40 (New): A process according to claim 19, wherein said composition is the only coating on said lithographic printing plate.

Claim 41 (New): A process for printing or image development, wherein said process comprises the use of a composition comprising: 1) a dual polymer binder system,

2) an infrared absorbing compound, 3) an acid generating compound and 4) a stabilizing acid, for forming a coating upon a lithographic printing plate and developing an image from the plate coated with said composition, wherein said plate is subjected to cure after development.

Claim 42 (New): A process according to claim 41, wherein said composition constitutes an outermost coating on said lithographic printing plate.

Claim 43 (New): A process according to claim 41, wherein said composition is the only coating on said lithographic printing plate.